



July 27, 2005

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911 Committee Update

By [Doug Chandler](#)



The last meeting of the [Utah 911 Committee](#) was held last Thursday. Unfortunately, we were not able to review, much less approve any grants. The 911 staff are waiting for the completion of a multi-step bid process for 911 equipment, so they can complete the requests they are now working on. Several vendors have requested a two-week extension of the bid deadline. The Executive Committee will soon meet to decide if the extension should be granted.

The Eastern portion of Box Elder County has had Enhanced 911 (E-911) for years. Just this week the Western half of the county became 911 enhanced. Bill Jensen and Sam Saeva have been aggressive in their duties, on behalf of the 911 Committee, to improve Utah's 911 capabilities.

Follow [this link](#) to see the minutes (not yet approved) of the July meeting.

Q Phone & RAZRWire

By [Doug Chandler](#)

[Motorola](#) and [Microsoft](#) have teamed up to take on the ubiquitous [Blackberry](#). Scheduled to be released 1st quarter of 2006, the new 'Q' Phone (yes, it's a cheeky attempt to sound like James Bond's gadget guy) will have a QWERTY keyboard and 1.3 Megapixel camera -with flash no less. I hope the battery has some serious juice. Of course it will do web surfing, e-mails, phone calls, and is bluetooth-enabled. Like the popular Blackberry, the Q will have a one-handed navigation thumbwheel. It will come loaded up with Microsoft's new Windows Mobile 5.0.

I couldn't find dimensions, but it's supposedly 50% thinner than other mobile mail devices (which once again worries me about battery capacity). For those of us that are *really* on the go, I've sent Motorola my suggestion for an electric razor attachment on top, but I think they were worried about the size of the battery.



'Q' Phone

Now, if you're really into Q-Branch, James Bond technology (and can use your agencies purchasing card without much oversight), Motorola has also teamed up with [Oakley](#) to deliver just the gadget for you. Their new [RAZRWire](#) sunglasses come equipped with a bluetooth earpiece. For a mere \$294.99, you can be wearing sunglasses to your next board meeting -which can be handy if you want to rest those eyelids.



RAZRWire
Sunglasses



RAZRWire (sideview)

Now I may sound a little cynical, but don't we look dorky enough now, walking around with bluetooth cellular devices hanging over our ears and looking like we're talking to ourselves, without having them clamped to glasses -which must be worn to use this new gadget? Slipping even further into cynicism, can't we just superglue the bluetooth devices we already have to our \$5.99 Sinclair specials? Stop by the radio shop and we'll take care of that for you...no charge for the glue.

New Kid on the Block

By [Bill Sipes](#), Strategic Network Planner

I came to the Radio Shop about the 3rd week of January, so as far as being 'green' is concerned, I am the greenest tomato on the vine -amongst a whole host of giant red ones. My duties include project planning for new and existing communications sites, Help Desk Ticket assignments within the Wireless Services Group, and contract writing and negotiations with the myriad public safety agencies we work with. Since I have been here, I have grown personally and professionally, and have grown to respect and admire those I am working with and around.

This is a group of people that climb communications towers hundreds of feet high, truck up mountain tops that would challenge the most avid 4-wheeler, work in all kinds of inclement weather, snow shoe hundreds of yards to a communications site, drive dangerous trails trying to get to a failed radio or generator, take calls on weekends holidays and all days in between to troubleshoot a problem (even the manager goes out when someone can't be reached), a planning staff that literally works all hours of the night and day to push a project along, seek out and research new technology to keep the State of Utah on the leading edge, and Jana that keeps the mountain of paperwork and POs organized (talk about dedication). I can't think of a better description or a more ready group to rise to that challenge.

I have been thrust into a world that I know very little about but have been accepted, encouraged and challenged. I have learned enough buzz words to make it appear that I know a little about what I am doing and talking about. I have visited with the Navajo Indian folks in Arizona, been on several mountain tops, tried to climb that 100' tower, talked with a number of emergency management folks around the state, staked out an area proposed for a communications site, talked and met with agents of several different federal and local government organizations, met with several sheriffs, police, and fire chiefs eager to establish better communications in their communities, even met with and spoken to a couple of environmental representatives expressing their concerns... talk about a growing experience.

To make a long story even longer, communications is the chain that keeps the community linked together and safe from the many perils that are ready to exploit and destroy. The State of Utah-ITS has visualized, planned, implemented, maintained and enhanced communications throughout the state. The present state of emergency preparedness is healthy and growing, providing the citizens of the State of Utah with the most comprehensive communications available for those public safety and Homeland Security 1st responders.

Calendar

UCAN Meeting

Tuesday September 20, 2005

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Location: VECC

5360 South 5885 West

Salt Lake City

911 Committee

Thursday August 18, 2005

10:00am - Noon

Rampton Complex

4501 South 2700 West

UHP Large Conference Room

Utah Sheriff's Association 10th Annual Conference and Exposition

St. George Dixie Center

September 11-13

[Conference Link](#)

Editor

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